

**UNDENIABLE PROOF OF FALSIFICATION OF THE  
INCIDENT INVOLVING TOXIC CHEMICALS AS A WEAPON IN DOUMA ON  
7 APRIL 2018**

The Foundation for the Study of Democracy carried out an independent assessment of the alleged use of toxic chemicals as a weapon in Douma, Syrian Arab Republic, on the seventh of April, two thousand eighteen.

Last year from 29.09.2019 to 20.12.2019 we interviewed:

- 40 White Helmets members, who provided detailed descriptions of practices of staged filming and widespread falsification of chemical attacks;
- Over 25 witnesses of falsified chemical attacks staged by White Helmets;
- 15 witnesses at the hospital (indicated in the OPCW Report as Location 1 with coordinates N 33° 34' 27.4", E 36° 24' 25.2") in Douma.

From 30.06.2019 to 1.07.2019 we carried out detailed interviews with 10 residents of the building where the bodies were located (indicated in the OPCW Report as Location 2 "Cylinder on the Roof" with coordinates N 33° 34' 25.6" E 36° 24' 17.3") in Douma.

On 2.07.2019 with assistance from the volunteers we also conducted a sociological survey of 300 residents of the houses located within 1 kilometer of Location 2.

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### FAKE NEWS BY THE WHITE HELMETS ON THE USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS (LOCATION 1)

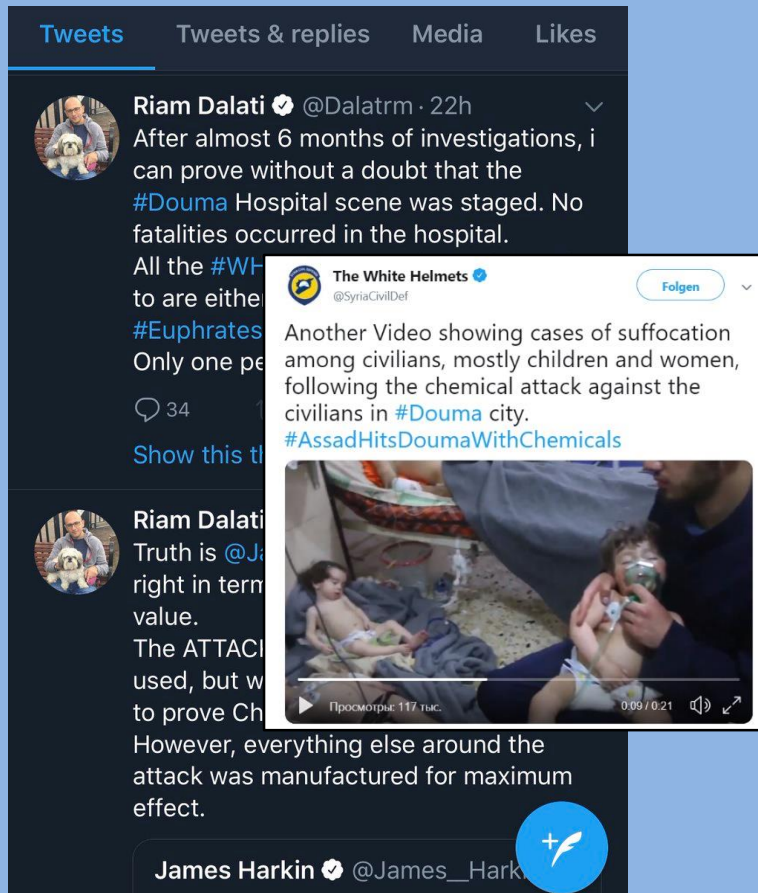


Last year we went to the hospital that was shot by the “White Helmets” in a video where its employees allegedly were helping those who had suffered in a chemical attack. The hospital personnel and Syrian civilians completely refuted these staged rescues.

Doctor Hassan from the Douma Hospital: “On 7 April 2018, about 15 persons were admitted with suffocation symptoms. Those who brought us these people told that they had chemical poisoning. But medical examination revealed no signs of chemical poisoning. We provided them with first medical aid and discharged them.”

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## FAKE NEWS BY THE WHITE HELMETS ON THE USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS (LOCATION 1)



The “White Helmets” posted this video from a hospital in its Twitter in April 2018 with a caption: "Another video showing cases of suffocation among civilians, mostly children and women, following the chemical attack against the civilians in Douma city."

On 13 February 2019, the BBC producer Riam Dalati tweeted: "After almost months of investigations, I can prove without a doubt that the Douma Hospital scene was staged. No fatalities occurred in the hospital ... everything else around the attack was manufactured for maximum effect" and "In fact, one of the 3 or 4 people filming the scene was Dr Abu Bakr Hanan, a "brute & shifty" doctor affiliated with Jaysh Al-Islam. The narrative was that "there weren`t enough drs" but here is one filming & not taking part of the rescue effort."



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RUSSIAN CIVIL DEFENSE  
**THE WHITE HELMETS:  
FACT-CHECKING**  
BY EYEWITNESSES  
AND FORMER VOLUNTEERS

The facts presented in our report "The White Helmets: Fact-Checking by eyewitnesses and Former volunteers" prove that falsification of chemical attacks was a common practice among the White Helmets organization.

Further evidence unequivocally shows that on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 Douma saw falsifications both in Location 1 and in Location 2.



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Seham Hayti, a 42-year-old woman residing in the building (referred to in the OPCW report as Location 2, "Cylinder on the roof") where the bodies were discovered.

**Q: How long have you been living in this building?**

**A: 5 years.**

**Q: Have you been living here without going anywhere?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: In other words, you have been spending every night in your apartment with your family?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: With whom do you live? Your husband and children? How old are your children?**

**A: Yes. 5 children. 19, 18, 12, 21 and 7 years old.**

**Q: Have they also been living and spending the nights here without leaving anywhere?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: Were you at home on the seventh of April last year as well?**

**A: Yes. We were here.**

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**Q: Some videos have appeared on the Internet featuring dead bodies in this building. Those people were allegedly killed by the chlorine from the cylinder. Had this been the case, would it have killed all your family as well?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: And what happened to you?**

**A: Well, nothing.**

**Q: Did you or any of your children feel sick?**

**A: Nothing like that.**

**Q: I will show you another video. Watch it carefully. Is this your staircase?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: Do you recognize any of these people? Have they ever lived here? Are you absolutely certain that these people had never lived here?**

**A: I don't know any of them. They had been brought here from the medical center. Their bodies had brought here from the medical center. They brought the bodies here and staged the whole thing.**



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Imam Kraim, 20 years old. She has also been permanently living in the building (including on the seventh of 7 April, 2018) where the bodies were discovered.

**Q: How long have you been living in this building?**

**A: More than 5 years.**

**Q: Last year, on the seventh of April, were you here with your family without going anywhere?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: Did you and your parents stay and spend every night in this building?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: How old are your parents? Do they leave the building often?**

**A: My father is 65 years old, and my mother is 60 years old. They do not.**

**Q: In other words, they spent most of the time in April last year in this building?**

**A: Yes.**

**Q: This is the photo from the report of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. This cylinder with chlorine is lying right here, on this floor.**



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THE FOUNDATION  
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OF DEMOCRACY



**Q:** On the Internet, it was stated that people who stayed in this building died of this chlorine. But if your parents and you stayed in this building for the whole last year and your parents remained indoors as they were sick, it means they should have died as well if chlorine had actually been there.

**A:** We stayed here every day. My father and mother. We did not feel anything. Had there been anything, they would have fallen sick.

**Q:** Did your parents complain of anything? Of chlorine? Of anything unusual?

**A:** No, they did not complain of anything.

**Q:** I will show you a video footage, please, take a close look at it and say if you know any of these people. Do you recognize anyone of those killed?

**A:** No.

**Q:** So these people never lived in this building?

**A:** No.



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**Mahmud Mehbali (57). He has also been permanently residing in the building (including on 7 April 2018) where the bodies were found.**

**Q: How long have you been living in this building?**

**A: For five years.**

**Q: Have you been here every day without leaving this place, in the morning, during the day and in the evening? Including last year and on the seventh of April last year?**

**A: I have.**

**Q: With whom do you live?**

**A: With my wife and four children.**

**Q: Last year, a video footage showing the bodies of dead people appeared on the Internet, it stated that this building had faced a chemical attack. How can you explain that people's bodies were in the building and you did not experience any damage to your health?**

**A: It never happened at all.**

**Q: So, you are absolutely sure that in reality there was no attack?**

**A: No, there was not.**

**Q: Did you feel any damage to your health? Either you, or your wife, or your children who stayed here all the time?**

**A: No.**

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Nada Ajar (23), a student, for 3 years (including on 7 April, 2018) she resided in the building the apartments of which were allegedly damaged in the chemical attack.

Q: Please, have a look at these pictures and a video footage. This video footage has appeared on the Internet, it was filmed in this building, in particular in this apartment. The video footage states these people died here of a chemical attack. Please, have a look and say if you know anyone of them.

A: I do not.

Please, take a look at them once again, do you recognize any of these people? There are almost thirty of them.

A: No, I do not recognize anyone.

Q: Please, say once again, you do not recognize any of these people?

A: No, no one.





# UNDENIABLE PROOF OF FALSIFICATION OF THE INCIDENT INVOLVING TOXIC CHEMICALS AS A WEAPON IN DOUMA ON 7 APRIL 2018



On 2.07.2018 volunteers assisted us in conducting an opinion poll among three hundred residents of the buildings which are situated within one kilometer from the building where the bodies were found (Location 2).

Task: to identify the dead bodies on the video footage.



The results of the poll: no one of the three hundred interviewed residents of the area recognized any of the bodies in the video footage mentioned in the OPCW report.



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**Conclusions based on the interviews with the permanent residents of the building where the bodies demonstrated on the video footage from the Internet were found both in the stairs and in apartments:**

- **witnesses permanently residing in the building who stayed there all day of the alleged use of toxic chemicals as a weapon on the seventh of April, twenty-eighteen WERE NOT AFFECTED.**
- **according to the evidence given by the witnesses who permanently resided in the building, their children and elderly parents who stayed in the building all day of the alleged use of toxic chemicals as a weapon on the seventh of April, twenty-eighteen WERE NOT AFFECTED either.**
- **among the bodies shown on the video footage THERE ARE NO RESIDENTS OF THE BUILDING that allegedly was subjected to a chemical attack, or of its nearby buildings.**

**This data unequivocally PROVE THAT THE INCIDENT ON THE SEVENTH OF APRIL, TWENTY-EIGHTEEN, WAS FAKE, as well as that THE DEAD BODIES BELONGED NEITHER to the residents of the building NOR even to people from the neighborhood, BUT WERE BROUGHT FROM ELSEWHERE for staging.**

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**Muhamed Shkhader Abdulkader, 40,  
driver.**

**He resides in an apartment which is  
just on the left from Location 2,  
"Cylinder on the roof".**



**Q: "There is a video recording published in the Internet featuring the bodies of those who died in this building in April, twenty-eighteen. What happened back then?"**

**A: "The fighters were shooting at the windows, not allowing us to watch. It was even impossible just to turn on the light... So I peeped, so that they would not arrest me. I had been earlier arrested and tortured by militants. The militants brought dead bodies by cars. Two columns, a lot of cars".**

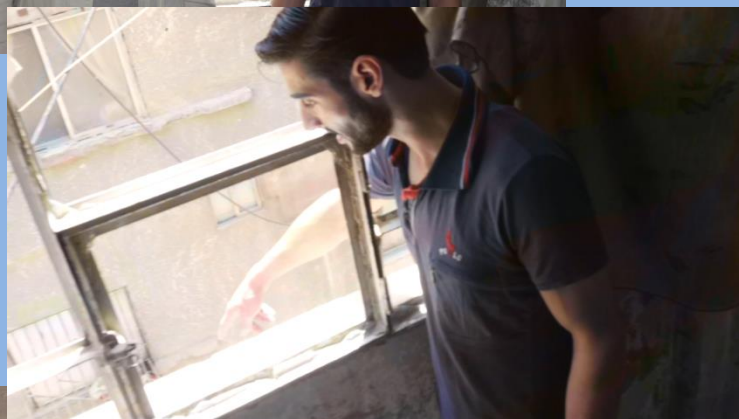
**Q: "Look at the photos of the dead people attentively. Do you know any of them?"**

**A: "I can recognize no one. I know all the locals. We all live here and we know each other well. I have been residing here since my childhood. But these people, I don't know them".**

**Q: "What happened next?"**

**A: "In this street I saw ten to fifteen dead bodies of people unfamiliar to me.**

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**Qamal Ali Fustuki, 24, baker**

**Q: What happened to your brother?**

**A: My brother was killed in an artillery shelling. They brought his body here, took a picture of it and told he had died in a chemical attack.**

**Q: That is, they brought the body here from the hospital?**

**A: They brought his body here, with no traces of the use of chemical weapons.**

**Q: Please show where exactly your brother's body lay.**

**A: Just over there.**

**Q: What happened next to your brother's body?**

**A: We approached the fighters to retrieve his body, but they refused to give him to us, they buried him themselves. All the bodies were taken away and buried. I don't know where.**



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**Faez Omar Fattum, 45, butcher.**

**He also resides in an apartment which is just on the left from Location 2, where dead bodies were found.**

**Q: "For how long have you been living in this building?"**

**A: "I have been living here for my whole life. We have never left Douma".**

**Q: "There is a video recording published in the Internet featuring the bodies of those who died in this building in April, twenty-eighteen. Please tell, what happened those days?"**

**A: "We live on the first floor. We were attacked by fighters. With their faces covered, they were shooting in the air. We were forced to go outside... The White Helmets were there, too. The fighters brought dead bodies by cars. We saw dead bodies".**

**Q: "From where did these bodies come?"**

**A: "The fighters brought the dead bodies from prison Al Thoba".**

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Those witnesses to the falsification tell how exactly it all happened:

- The fighters who came with the White Helmets, **brought dead bodies, intimidated locals, shot at windows, forcing some people to leave their homes** and isolating the rest in their apartments. Then, they filmed the footage and brought the bodies outside.
- **One body the fighters left outside was identified by a witness.** It was his brother who had earlier been killed in an artillery shelling and taken by fighters from hospital. The remaining bodies, as the witnesses supposed, were brought from the Al Thoba prison where fighters kept the people they captured, including women and children.
- Taking into account that other bodies had no injuries, the witnesses are confident that the people featured in the video recordings **were killed just to organize the falsification** on 7 April, 2018, in Douma.